Summary of the Official Action

In the instant Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-22 over the art of record. By the present amendment and remarks, Applicant submits that the objections and rejections have been overcome, and respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

Interview of February 25, 2003

Applicant appreciates the courtesy extended by Examiner William Deane Jr. in the interview of February 25, 2003.

In that interview, Applicant's representative first requested clarification of the instant Office Action with regard to how claims 11-22 were being rejected. The Examiner explained that the claims which recite features similar to call blocking (i.e, claims 13-15, 17 and 19) were rejected in the same manner as claim 7, i.e., the obviousness rejection. On the other hand, the claims which do not recite to call blocking are rejected in the same manner as claim 1, i.e., the anticipation rejection. Applicant appreciates this clarification of the instant Office Action.

Applicant's representative also discussed, among other things, that none of the applied documents disclose or suggest the combination of features recited in independent claims 1, 11 and 16. It was specifically pointed out that claim 1 recites storing telephone data related

to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls in a list, *the telephone data being designated as one of public data and private data* in combination with *limiting list access to a list of public telephone data, until such time as a user of the telephone inputs a personal secret access code, after which, the user has access to the list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret access code.* It was pointed out that EP '488 (RUST) teaches to store information in a call activity log and that this call activity log cannot properly be characterized as being *a list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret access code.*

It was also pointed out that REDD, Jr. relates to a system for selectively blocking calls ·and is entirely silent with regard to storing telephone data related to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls in a list, *the telephone data being designated as one of public data and private data* in combination with *limiting list access to a list of public telephone data, until such time as a user of the telephone inputs a personal secret access code, after which, the user has access to the list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret access code.*

The Examiner agreed to reconsider the rejections in light of such arguments and the filing of Applicant's response.

Traversal of Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 1-6, 8-10, 11, 12, 16, 18 and 20-22 under

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 462 488 to RUST.

The Examiner asserted that this document discloses all the features recited in these

claims including the storing of public data and private data. Applicant respectfully traverses

this rejection.

As a preliminary matter, the Examiner indicated that he would reconsider this

rejection based upon arguments made during the interview and upon the filing of an

Amendment, i.e., that this document appears to lack any disclosure to storing telephone data

related to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls in a list, *the telephone data*

being designated as one of public data and private data in combination with *limiting list*

access to a list of public telephone data, until such time as a user of the telephone inputs a

personal secret access code, after which, the user has access to the list of public telephone

data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret

access code.

Applicant also submits that the rejection is improper because this document does not

disclose all the recited features of the above-noted claims, and in particular, at least

independent claims 1, 11 and 16.

Notwithstanding the Office Action assertions as to what this document discloses,

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Applicant submits that this document fails to disclose, <u>inter alia</u>, storing telephone data related to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls in a list, the telephone data being designated as one of public data and private data, and *limiting list access to a list of public telephone data, until such time as a user of the telephone inputs a personal secret access code, after which, the user has access to the list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret access code*, as recited in claim 1, <u>inter alia</u>, a memory that stores telephone data related to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls and a personal secret access code entry device that enables a user of the telephone to enter a personal secret access code, *access to said stored telephone data being limited to a public list containing public telephone data, until such time ·as the user enters said personal secret access code, after which, the user has access to said public telephone data contained in said public list and a private list containing private telephone data that is associated with said inputted personal secret access code*, as recited in claim 11, and <u>inter alia</u>, entering a personal secret access code into the telephone by a user of the telephone, *creating a private list containing telephone numbers associated with the personal secret access code entered by the user*, the telephone numbers contained in the private list be accessible only by the user that entered the associated personal secret access code, and *creating a public list containing telephone numbers that is accessible by any user of the telephone without the need for entering a personal secret access code*, as recited in

claim 16.

As discussed in the interview, RUST teaches to store information in a call activity log. Indeed, Applicant does not dispute that this document indicates that col. 7, line 54 to col. 8, line 10 that the call activity log can be limited to those users who enter a password. However, Applicant submits that this call activity log cannot properly be characterized as being *a list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret access code.*

The Examiner must recognize that the claims clearly recite that the telephone data includes *a list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data* and that these lists are *associated with the inputted personal secret access code.* On the other hand, RUST ·merely teaches to store one type of data, i.e., data that is in the form of a call activity log. It is also clear that this document merely teaches to either allow all users to access the log or limit its accessibility to only those users who have a password.

Thus, Applicant submits that at least claims 1, 11 and 16 are not disclosed by any proper reading of RUST.

Applicant notes that, for an anticipation rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) to be proper, each element of the claim in question must be disclosed in a single document, and if the document relied upon does not do so, then the rejection must be withdrawn.

Because this document fails to disclose at least the above mentioned features as

recited in independent claims 1, 11 and 16, Applicant submits that this document does not disclose all the claimed features recited in at least independent claims 1, 11 and 16.

Further, claims 2-6, 8-10, 12, 18 and 20-22 are allowable at least for the reason that these claims each depend from an allowable base claim and because these claims recite additional features that further define the present invention. In particular, Applicant submits that no proper reading of RUST discloses or even suggests, in combination: that the method further comprises displaying the list on a display associated with the telephone as recited in claim 2; that the storing of telephone data comprises storing the public telephone data in a public list and storing the private telephone data in a private list as recited in claim 3; that the inputting of a personal secret access code comprises manipulating a predetermined key ·sequence on a keypad of the telephone to initiate an operation to enter the personal secret access code as recited in claim 4; that the storing of telephone data comprises storing public telephone data and private telephone data in a common list, the private telephone data being hidden from the user until the user inputs the personal secret access code as recited in claim 5; that the method further comprises providing two operating modes of the telephone, a first ·mode that has no access restrictions, and a second mode with access restrictions as recited in claim 6; that the method further comprises switching between the two operating modes by manipulating a predetermined keyboard command as recited in claim 8; that the predetermined keyboard command comprises manipulating one of a particular sequence of

commands and a plurality of contemporary commands as recited in claim 9; that the method

further comprises delaying the switching between the two operating modes until the user

inputs the personal secret access code as recited in claim 10; that the telephone further

comprises a display that provides a visual indication of at least one of said public telephone

data contained in said public list and said private telephone data contained in said private list

as recited in claim 12; that the method further comprises storing a plurality of personal secret

access codes, the telephone numbers in the private list being associated with various personal

secret access codes, a current personal secret access code entered into the telephone by a

current user being limited to accessing telephone numbers in the private list that are

associated with the current personal secret access code entered by the current user as recited

·in claim 18; that the method further comprises switching between a public operating mode

and a private operating mode by manipulating a predetermined command on a keyboard of

the telephone as recited in claim 20; that entering the personal secret access code comprises

manipulating a predetermined key on a keypad of the telephone for a predetermined period

of time to initiate an operation to enter the personal secret access code as recited in claim 21;

·that entering the personal secret access code comprises manipulating a predetermined

sequence of simultaneous commands on a keypad of the telephone for a predetermined

period of time to initiate an operation to enter the personal secret access code as recited in

claim 22.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection and further requests that the above-noted claims be indicated as allowable.

Traversal of Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 7, 13-15, 17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over RUST in view of US patent 5,467,388 to REDD, Jr et al.

The Examiner acknowledges that RUST lacks, among other things, call blocking. However, the Examiner asserted that such a feature is taught by REDD. Finally, the Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify RUST to include the feature of REDD. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Notwithstanding the Office Action assertions as to what each of these documents discloses, Applicant submits that no combination of RUST and REDD discloses or suggests, inter alia, storing telephone data related to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls in a list, the telephone data being designated as one of public data and private data, and *limiting list access to a list of public telephone data, until such time as a user of the ·telephone inputs a personal secret access code, after which, the user has access to the list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret access code*, as recited in claim 1, inter alia, a memory that stores telephone data related to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls and a personal

secret access code entry device that enables a user of the telephone to enter a personal secret access code, *access to said stored telephone data being limited to a public list containing public telephone data, until such time as the user enters said personal secret access code, after which, the user has access to said public telephone data contained in said public list and a private list containing private telephone data that is associated with said inputted personal secret access code*, as recited in claim 11, and <u>inter alia</u>, entering a personal secret access code into the telephone by a user of the telephone, *creating a private list containing telephone numbers associated with the personal secret access code entered by the user*, the telephone numbers contained in the private list be accessible only by the user that entered the associated personal secret access code, and *creating a public list containing telephone numbers that is accessible by any user of the telephone without the need for entering a personal secret access code*, as recited in claim 16.

As discussed above, RUST teaches to store information in a call activity log. This merely indicates (at col. 7, line 54 to col. 8, line 10) that the call activity log can be limited to those users who enter a password. However, it is clear that such a call activity log cannot properly be characterized as being *a list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data that is associated with the inputted personal secret access code*.

Applicant notes that the claims clearly recite that the telephone data includes *a list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data* and that these lists are *associated*

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with the inputted personal secret access code. On the other hand, RUST merely teaches to store one type of data, i.e., data that is in the form of a call activity log. It is also clear that this document merely teaches to either allow all users to access the log or limit its accessibility to only those users who have a password.

Moreover, REDD relates to a system for selectively blocking calls and is entirely silent with regard to the telephone data including *a list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data* and that these lists are *associated with the inputted personal secret access code.*

Because each of the applied documents fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-noted features of the instant invention, Applicant submits that any proper combination of these documents fails to render unpatentable the combination of features recited in at least independent claims 1, 11 and 16.

Further, even assuming, *arguendo,* that it would have been obvious to modify RUST to include the features of REDD, (which Applicant submits it would not be), Applicant notes that the combination of the teachings of these documents would nevertheless fail to result in a device or method wherein the telephone data includes *a list of public telephone data and a list of private telephone data* and that these lists are *associated with the inputted personal secret access code.* Moreover, Applicant submits that there is no motivation to modify each of these documents in a manner which would render obvious Applicant's invention.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that there is no motivation or rationale disclosed or suggested in the art to modify the applied references in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Nor does the Examiner's opinion provide a proper basis for these features or for the motivation to modify any of these documents, or their combination, in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant submits that the invention as recited in at least independent claims 1, 11 and 16 is not rendered obvious by any reasonable inspection and interpretation of the disclosure of the applied references.

Further, Applicant submits that dependent claims 7, 13-15, 17 and 19 are allowable at least for the reason that these claims each depend from an allowable base claim and because these claims recite additional features that further define the present invention. In particular, Applicant submit that no proper combination of the applied documents discloses or suggests, in combination: that the method further comprises providing for the rejection of an incoming call, along with a corresponding blocking of any indication of the incoming call, when a telephone number is designated as a protected telephone number as recited in claim 7; that the telephone further comprises an inhibitor that prevents at least one of a visual indication and an audible indication of an incoming call when a telephone number of said incoming call is designated to be a private call corresponding to a personal secret access code that has not been inputted into said telephone by a current user of said telephone as recited in claim 13; that said personal secret access code is inputted by manipulating a predetermined

key sequence on a keypad of said telephone to initiate an operation to enter said personal secret access code as recited in claim 14; that said personal secret access code is inputted by manipulating a predetermined sequence of simultaneous commands for a predetermined time period on a keypad of said telephone to initiate an operation to enter said personal secret access code as recited in claim 15; that the method further comprises preventing the user from being notified of an incoming call when the telephone number of the incoming call is designated as a private telephone number and the user that designated the incoming call as a private telephone number is not a current user of the telephone as recited in claim 17; and that the method further comprises preventing the current user from being notified of an incoming call when the incoming call is designated as a private telephone number associated with a personal secret access code of a different user of the telephone as recited in claim 19.

Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and indicate that these claims are allowable.

New Claims are also Allowable

Applicant also submits that newly submitted claims 23 and 24 are also patentable over the art of record.

In particular, Applicant submits that no proper combination of RUST and REDD

discloses or suggests inter alia, storing public type of telephone data related to at least one

of incoming and outgoing telephone calls, storing, for each of the plurality of users, private

type of telephone data related to at least one of incoming and outgoing telephone calls,

allowing each of the plurality of users to access to the public type of telephone data,

preventing each of the plurality of users from accessing the private type of telephone data

until each of the plurality of users enters a personal secret access code, allowing one of the

plurality of users to access the private type of telephone data upon input of a personal secret

access code and allowing another of the plurality of users to access the private type of

telephone data upon input of a personal secret access code, wherein each of the plurality of

users has a different personal secret access code, and wherein the private type of telephone

data that is accessible by the one of the plurality of users comprises telephone data that is

different from the private type of telephone data that is accessible by the other of the plurality

of users, as recited in claim 23.   Moreover, claim 24 depends from claim 23 and is also

believed to be allowable.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this claim and further

·request that the above-noted claim be indicated as allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record, either
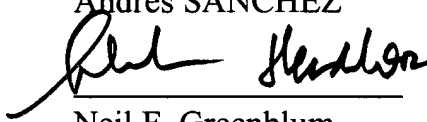
taken alone or in any proper combination thereof, anticipate or render obvious Applicant's invention, as recited in each of claims 1-24. The applied references of record have been discussed and distinguished, while significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees in connection therewith or any fees necessary for entry of the instant Amendment to deposit account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Andres SANCHEZ

Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394

February 25, 2003
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

Attachment: Appendix

APPENDIX
Changes to the paragraph between lines 3-6 of page 1 of the specification:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a counterpart of European Patent Application No. [98810968.2] 98 810 968.2, filed on September 25, 1998, the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.